

A STRONG ADDRESS.

The Cotton Growers Are Urged to Combine.

AN INTERESTING PAPER.

for the Farmers to Protect themselves is Pouted Out in Detail. The Danger Imminent.

The Cotton Growers of South Carolina.

The special committee appointed by the Cotton Growers' union of the State held in Columbia on the 20th inst., desire to say that the exceedingly low prices of cotton at the present, with the indication of lower prices still in the future, painfully admonish us that we have reached a crisis in the history of the industry. Prices today are not only far lower than they have ever previously been at this season of the year, but lower than they have been for 50 years, and the months of November, December, January and February are selling on the Liverpool market lower than during the great depression of the forties, and even at these figures English agents are advising the spinners of Great Britain to withhold their purchases upon assurances that prices will soon be 50 points lower. In view of these conditions we desire to call the attention not only of the cotton growers but of every business association in the cotton belt to the portentious situation of the cotton growers and the danger which is going for a mess of pottage, and our great natural advantages sacrificed with the careless indifference of a drunkard, who flings from his lap his treasures. Foreign speculators and manufacturers, fully aware of the fact that the cotton growers are the hands of the growers at figures far below the cost of production, nevertheless hold aloof from the market to allow the making obligations of the farmers to force the crop out of their hands for a mere pittance. Defiantly claiming to command the situation they boldly propose to avail themselves of conditions, which could be remedied by a combination of the cotton growers and the element of the cotton belt, to rob the growers not only of the profits of their year's toil but of nearly one-half the value of 10,000,000 bales of cotton, and thereby impoverish the most favored section of the globe. Blessed with the natural advantages of a climate and soil which alone can produce this great staple in quality and quantity sufficient for the demands of the world, we should be the most prosperous people on earth. Efficient organization, which would control the volume of production and regulate its marketing, would make these advantages a mine of wealth; but with every cotton grower separately and independently striving to increase his acreage and nullify his sales, first above and then below the cost of production; with a vicious financial system, the claims of the local merchant and banker to force the entire crop on the market in four months, these natural advantages are distorted into a blight and a curse, and the cotton grower is made to become a prey to the usurer, the speculator and the manufacturer. Never was there a situation which more imperiously challenged the wisdom of economic co-operation; never was there more inviting way, a more imperative field for organization; never was there an exigency which would more fully justify it. Yet we are told that the cotton growers are an ignorant class, devoid of leadership and without the power to organize; that it is impossible to organize 500,000 cotton growers. Why even the lower animals will rise to the defense of their kind, and suppose that the most direct and forceful appeals to sentiments the most calculated to stir the human heart cannot induce them to organize for purposes of mutual protection and self defense, then truly we should have no more complaints of the oppression of the cotton growers, for as a class they will be the most defenseless and helpless people on earth.

By Which the Cotton Acreage Can be Decreased.

There is a man in Columbia who has a great scheme on foot for the reduction of the cotton acreage. He says he intends to push it to a grand goal, the cotton acreage, and he will if he can get the proper co-operation. There is a degree of uncertainty about his being able to do that, however. There have been a number of conventions of cotton planters, in which they all positively pledged themselves to reduce the amount of cotton they would plant. Then a case of resolute will and fall back. Then the farmers got home, each one would wink at himself, assume that everybody else was going to decrease the acreage, and he would take advantage of the opportunity to double his own acreage in cotton and get the benefit of higher prices. They would all play fox in the same way and the consequence would be a crop of unprecedented size. Now this Columbia genius has hit upon a scheme which logically cannot fail. He proposes to call a convention of all the cotton growers of this part of the South. They will each and all be pledged to increase their cotton acreage for the next year. Every safeguard will be thrown around them so that according to all the laws of the game the acreage be doubled. And then one by one they will secretly determine that there is to be an over production of cotton; he will plant a minimum acreage, and the other fellows reap the proceeds of 2 cent cotton. As a consequence we would have the smallest crop of cotton planted in fifteen years and the fleecy staple will go up to 12 cents.—Record.

Cost Him His Arm.

William Roelker, a German ironworker, twisted a lion's tail at East St. Louis, and was left his left arm. John F. Hummer, circus and menagerie was to have an exhibition. The animal wagons were lined up, preparatory to the parade. Among the animals were a pair of African lions. The male was lying at the front of the cage, with one of his paws and his tail hanging outside the bars. Roelker began stroking the paw with his left hand. The lion watched Roelker's procedure. The ironworker grabbed the tail with his right hand, giving it a sharp twist. There was a roar, and one of the lion's paws caught Roelker by the left shoulder and stripped off the flesh of the arm down to the hand, two fingers of which were torn off.

Beats Walking.

When a man walks a mile he takes, on an average, 2,200 steps, lifting the weight of his body with each step. When he rides a bicycle of the average gear he covers a mile with the equivalent of only 627 steps, requires little force, bears no burden, and covers the same distance in less than one-third of the time.

Another Hold Up.

A special from Elyria, Ohio, says: Another hold-up occurred on the Lake Shore road west of here. One gang of thugs held up the officials on a freight train and took everything in sight. Many shots were fired. The trainmen were not molested. A movement is on foot to break up the gang.

three months the entire surplus beyond their control would be consumed and the manufacturers would be at their mercy for a supply. The entire situation would be changed instead of the speculator and the manufacturer dictating the price the cotton grower could x his price and say, "or shut down your mill." A reduction in next year's acreage of 50 per cent would insure such a diminution of the supply as to make cotton scarce and bring about an active competition among the manufacturers for their stock that would insure a steady and rapid rise of price.

This was made demonstrably clear during the war between the north and south in the sixties. McHenry in his "History of the Cotton," page 51, says: "In ordinary times there is always two years' supply of cotton in the crude and manufactured state at the consuming points. At the fall of Fort Sumter there was a sufficiency for three years' requirements. With the supply larger in proportion than then now, as soon as the production was curtailed by the war, we note the following extraordinary rise in price; in 1860 the average price was 11 cents, in 1861 at 13 cents, in 1862 at 32 cents, in 1863 at 67 cents, in 1864 at \$1.01. But it is argued that any heavy curtailment of production in the South to raise the price will stimulate foreign competition. If \$1 per pound in 1864 could not stimulate ingenious foreign competition it is difficult to see how \$10 cents can do it now.

Touching this point, Ellison in his "History of the Cotton Trade," pages 149-152, says: "For some years prior to the outbreak of the civil war it had been foreseen that, sooner or later a serious labor disturbance at the south was inevitable, and in view of the calamity which such an event would bring upon Lancashire, every effort was made to discover new sources of cotton supply. But, although the powerful association formed for the promotion of this and searched every nook and corner of the cotton zone, and sent seed to every one in the four continents, willing to experiment, they entirely failed to accomplish the laudable object they had in view."

Mr. Ellison further tells us that while the exceedingly high prices during the war did considerably increase the shipments of cotton, that this increase declined almost to its normal level as soon as the price of cotton fell to 15 cents or 30 cents per pound. If no action is taken and this crop is sacrificed at present or probably lower figures in the next four months it will fall far short of paying for the cost of production. The cotton growers will be impoverished, the country stripped of means and every business interest must suffer. Should there be no effective organization to curtail the supply by a uniform reduction of the acreage, and any other plan to reduce the crop, is the merest twaddle. The industry will be but an illustration of the survival of the fittest; those who can raise it cheapest and those who cannot compete must accept the cheerless and hopeless lot of the bankrupt and pauper.

President S. C. G. U. L. W. Youmans, Vice-President N. C. G. U. A GREAT SCHEME.

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CLIMATE AND CROPS.

South Carolina Has Some Crop Growing the Year Round.

INSPECTOR BAUER'S REPORT

Much Valuable Information Furnished as to the Conditions in This State During Each Month.

The following is the climate and crop review for the season of 1898 issued from the South Carolina section of the United States weather and crop service Thursday.

There is no month of the year but what, in portions of the State, some crop is either growing or coming to maturity. During January, February and generally the greater portion of March the active growth of crops is confined to the immediate coast from Charleston to the mouth of the Savannah river, where winter vegetables, planted in the previous autumn, receive cultivation to make more or less growth. The earliest are marketed in the latter portion of January, and throughout February and March. The list of vegetables increases in variety as the season advances and the area of production extends farther into the interior, although confined to the easternmost counties until after March.

The winter season of 1898 was mild and dry. The average temperature for January was 49 degrees, which was an average of 3 degrees per day in excess of the normal. Along the coast the temperature fell below freezing (32) on two days only, while the average minimum was above the active growing temperature. The rainfall, however, in the trucking districts, amounted to a fraction of an inch only, and the deficiency of rain during the first half of the month was very marked. The extremes of temperature were a maximum of 105 and a minimum of 55. The temperature rose to or above, 90 degrees on an average of 20 days.

The average rainfall for the month was 4.15 inches, which was 0.47 of an inch below the normal. There was an average of 8 days of rain, but the drought of the previous month became intensified, and continued until about the 15th, after which date copious and well distributed showers occurred over the entire State, and prevented the threatened serious injury to growing crops, except to truck gardens, spring sown oats and early corn. The latter was too nearly matured in the eastern counties to be much benefited by the absence of rain during the first half of the month was favorable for finishing wheat and oats harvest and securing the grain in fine condition, but delayed planting of corn and peas on stubble lands; and transplanting sweet potato slips. Cotton plants developed satisfactorily; they fruited heavily, and in the more easterly portions of the State put on bolls freely. Rice damaged cotton in a healthy condition, although small for the season, except on sandy soils, where it attained normal growth.

Tobacco developed into a very fine crop, and was usually free from worms, fleas and grasshoppers, and sustained no damage by hail. Some early tobacco was cut and cured. Rice did not do well until near the close of the month, when it began to improve rapidly. Large quantities of melons came on the market but other fruits and berries were scarce or of inferior quality. Melons were smaller and later than usual. The month as a whole favored farm work, with a result that field crops were generally well cultivated and unusually free from grass and weeds.

July was a cloudy and rainy month, with an average of 14 days of rain. The mean temperature was 80, which was one degree per day above the normal. The extremes were a maximum of 102 and a minimum of 54 degrees. The cool spell was of short duration, and did no harm.

The average rainfall for the State was 7.81 inches, which was 1.71 above the normal, and was evenly distributed, with an average of 14 days of rain. There was more than the usual amount of cloudiness. Few severe windstorms occurred, and there was an almost entire absence of destructive hail.

Crop developed satisfactorily, especially corn, which attained a very promising condition although the prospects did not indicate a full crop in all sections of the State. Cotton grew too much to stalk, and owing to the dry condition of the soil, did not receive its usual July cultivation, and fields became grassy. The plant lacked sunshine. Cotton fruited heavily, with very little shedding except in a few localities where excessive shedding occurred. Tobacco cutting and curing continued throughout the month, and the bulk of this crop was saved without any material injury from any of the weather, unless some of the fields became available early in the month, and the crop improved rapidly. Forage and food crops grew fast. Fall root crops were planted. The month as a whole was favorable for all agricultural interests. Peaches and melons were plentiful, but other fruits were generally scarce. The damp cloudy weather caused much rotting of ripening grapes.

August was a month of normal temperature and excessive rainfall. The mean temperature for the month was 79 degrees, which is also the normal. The extremes of temperature recorded were a maximum of 99, and a minimum of 57 degrees. There was an unusually small range in the night temperatures. The average rainfall for the month was 9.81 inches, which was 3.68 inches in excess of the normal. There were 18 days with rain, and some rain fell within the State on every day of the month. Two stations had monthly measurements of over 24 inches, and 13 others had over 10 inches. The rainfall at many stations was largely in excess of any previous monthly records. There was a harmful deficiency in sunshine. Abundant moisture and even, high temperature caused all vegetation to grow rapidly, and forage as well as root crops did exceedingly well; but maturing crops, such as cotton, corn and rice, deteriorated. The frequent rains prevented haying, delayed rice harvest and ruined the greater portion of corn

the first week was cool, with light frosts on the 7th and 8th over a large portion of the State, but the frost did no injury other than to retard the growth of young corn and cotton. Cut worms were unusually numerous and destructive during the prevalence of the cool weather. The temperature on the 30th was higher at many stations than ever before recorded in May.

The average rainfall for the month was only 1.35 inches, with an average of 8 days with rain. The rainfall was 84 per cent of the normal, and droughty conditions prevailed by the end of the month, being most severe over the southeastern counties, where there was a large seasonal deficiency in rainfall.

The harvesting of wheat and oats was elegant and nearly finished during the month. The wheat crop was the finest raised for many years; the oats crop was also heavy, except for spring sown, which was injured by the dry weather. Truck crops suffered severely.

Cotton developed slowly, being small but vigorous and healthy. Corn remained green, but made slow growth, and in places suffered severely for the want of rain. Tobacco did well, and an almost entire absence of destructive insects was noted.

Pastures failed rapidly; berries and truck yields were reduced by the drought. Streams reached very low stages, and wells began to fail. The month of the month. Rice grew well, but on account of the low stages of the rivers, was threatened by salt water. Gardens dried up, and vegetables became scarce in places. Farm work was well advanced, and crops were kept free from weeds and grass, and were well cultivated. The dust was distressing in the cities and along the highways.

June was a month of transition from the unfavorable conditions that prevailed generally during May on to a more favorable season. The mean temperature was 80, which was 2 degrees above the normal. The extremes of temperature were a maximum of 105 and a minimum of 55. The temperature rose to or above, 90 degrees on an average of 20 days.

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fodder that was stripped from the stalk. Some corn was blown to the ground and considerable sprouted in the husk. The humid, rainy weather caused many ripe cotton bolls to rot, and the seed of open cotton sprouted before it could be picked. Much of the open cotton milled and became weather-stained. The excessive rains caused rust to develop, and shedding of squares and young bolls. Peavines attained good growth but could not be harvested. Grass that was cut for hay was generally ruined before it could be properly cured and housed. Exceedingly heavy rains caused inundations over the southeastern counties, doing extensive damage to cotton, corn, rice and hay. On the whole, the month was unfavorable for the staple crops, but was quite favorable for minor crops, pastures and gardens. Whatever deterioration crops suffered was due to an excess of moisture and deficiency in sunshine. The first bale of cotton for the season of 1898 was made on the 9th of August, or 12 days later than in 1897.

September began with a continuation of the rainy, clammy and warm weather that prevailed during August, but about the 10th of this month there was a change to cooler, clear weather at first, and then to clear, very warm weather. The temperature averaged about 3 degrees per day above the normal. The rainfall was slightly deficient in the central and eastern counties, but over the western counties there was considerable excess, but neither the deficiency nor the excess just noted were great enough to be harmful.

After the 10th of September, ideal weather prevailed for harvesting and maturing crops. Rust, shedding and rotting ceased on cotton, and picking made rapid progress, which as it advanced seemed to indicate a shortage in the crop over the eastern and central counties, but also indicated a full average crop in the western counties, where in many places cotton continued to grow, bloom and fruit throughout the month.

Considerable corn was housed, and much found to be damaged from sprouting in the husk. Local overflows of rivers and creeks also damaged some corn, but on the whole the early corn crop was an average yield, with many exceptions, owing to local adverse conditions. Late planted or stubble-land corn varied greatly throughout the State.

Rice harvest continued throughout the month, and except where damaged by floods, yielded heavily. Upland rice was particularly fine in most localities. A heavy crop of peavine and other hay was saved in good condition. The hay crop was the heaviest ever known in many localities, and was far above the average over the entire State.

The season as a whole, for sweet potatoes, chufas, peanuts, sugar and sorghum cane, turnips, and for garden truck, after the middle of June, was very favorable and the yields large. A short resume of the season would show that the winter was dry with moderate temperatures, the spring crop with frequent light frosts, and deficiency in rainfall amounting to a drought of more or less severity, and entailing considerable loss in some localities. The summer was uniformly warm and excessively wet. The autumn warm, dry and favorable for harvesting and abundant crops that the season and the labor of the husbandman produced.

J. W. Bauer, Section Director.

DESTRUCTIVE PRAIRIE FIRES.

Five Thousand Head of Cattle Doomed to Death. Serious Situation.

A prairie fire, probably started by a spark from a locomotive, has burned over thousands of acres of grassy lands between Kiowa and Bijon creeks in Morgan county, Col., and destroyed thousands of head of cattle.

Ranchman W. C. Miller and his wife and child had a narrow escape from being burned to death. The woman and the child were badly burned. Had it not been for the prompt work of the railroad men and others at Corona, the town would have been entirely destroyed. Going toward the approaching fire for a mile back fires were started and in this manner the danger averted. Thousands of head of cattle are threatened with destruction by the forest fires.

In Eagle county, where the flames seem to be spreading more rapidly than in other sections of the State, ranch property has been burned and the farmers with their stock have been trying to get out of the path of the fire for a week past. One large bunch of about 5,000 head of cattle is now entirely surrounded by fire and there is no chance for them to escape. The report came from Deputy Game Warden Slaught, who directed his letter two days ago. It is probable that the cattle have been destroyed by this time.

Dispatches from various points in the forest fire district indicate that the fires are spreading, and that unless something done to check their further progress the loss will be almost beyond estimation. Some mining camps are threatened with destruction and many ranches are doomed.

At Redcliff the fires are within 10 miles of the town and citizens are organizing to fight their advance. A dispatch states that it is feared that the little mining settlement at Holy Cross near Red Cliff has been destroyed. Communication is cut off the mail carrier being unable to get through.

Diseases of Cattle.

Veterinary Surgeon Neeson, of Clemson college, has written a long letter to Governor Ellerbe in reference to diseases of cattle in the state. He says that it will be necessary to have an assistant if the business is to be properly attended to. These letters have been sent to Washington with the governor's recommendation that the additional surgeon be allowed. This department of Clemson college has done much good work heretofore and the state authorities hope the government will send the additional surgeon.

Prisoners Released.

The official Gazette at Havana published a decree Thursday signed by Capt. Gen. Blanco and bearing date of September 27, granting pardon to and ordering the release of all political prisoners now undergoing confinement in the island.

BATTLE OF MANILA.

A Retired French Naval Officer's Observation About It.

THE SPANIARDS NO GOOD.

They are Dreamers and Dwell In the Past. The Marksman-ship of the Americans Excellent.

The Courier des Etats-Unis is publishing a series of letters from Manila, one of which gives an account of the battle of Cavite by a retired French naval officer who lived for a long time in the Philippine islands, and whose country house was situated between Cavite and Manila. The views of the Frenchman are interesting, especially because they seem utterly devoid of all prejudice.

"Now, monsieur," asked the correspondent, "since your house was so near the scene of the battle, be good enough to tell us what the affair looked like."

"Well, I will tell you the thing simply and just as it occurred. At 5 o'clock that morning I was in bed. I heard a long, dull sound. I thought that it was a signal announcing the arrival of a French mail or English vessel. I was awake and asked, 'What is that?'

"It is simply a signal," said I. Two minutes afterward there was another cannon shot. 'Hello! What's this?' said I. 'Is it something serious?' That certainly can't be a signal. I jumped up and looked out of the window. I could see nothing but a little curtain of fog and a little smoke. Then, to frighten my wife with what I believed was a little practical joke, I shouted, 'The American fleet! I looked out again. The fog was gone, and, sure enough, I counted seven American ships in line. They were advancing very slowly. I came back to my wife and said: 'Well, now, let me tell you that what I said to you a moment ago by way of a joke was really a fact. Here the Americans are!' She almost lost her head with it. 'None of that! I cover your head in the bed clothes and put cotton in your ears if you want to, but keep quiet.'

"I watched the fleet. It was advancing upon Cavite, where all the Spanish boats were heaped together like mice in a trap. The Americans were soon upon them and opened a terrible fire. They manoeuvred for a while and finally placed themselves two by two, the two largest in the rear, and the others in front, two at the right, two at the left, all facing the Spaniards. At 7:30 there was not a single Spanish vessel afloat; all were either sunk or burned. The fire of the Americans was excellent, indeed, wonderful. Each shot hit the mark. I could see the smoke and the cloud of dust when a projectile fell on shore. It was a magnificent piece of firing practice."

"But didn't the batteries fire?" "Oh, yes, the batteries at Cavite fired a few shots, but it was quickly demolished by the shells of the Americans. It was absolutely reduced to cinders. I admired greatly the accuracy of the American shooting. As I said, every shot seemed to hit the mark."

"Now, tell me about the protestations that were made by the Spanish corps, and especially by the German corps, in regard to some broken promises."

"There were no protestations. The Spaniards came to the French consul and protested to him on the day of the battle. I was there at the time. They were excited and shouted out: 'Senior consul! Senior consul! They fired at us with shells that burst! It was a whooping lie! I exclaimed, 'Did you Spaniards protest in 1870 when Strasburg, Belfort and Paris were bombarded with shells that burst? And even two months ago, when you massacred a lot of insurgents, it was also with shells that burst!' But that is the way always with these Spaniards. They are proud, valiant and stubborn, but they live in 1850 or say 1810. They have changed one bit since then. Chas. V. Cortez and Legazpi are the only heroes they speak of. They do not seem to know that a great many new things have been introduced since that time, among others, shells, new powder, machines, electricity, etc."

"Now, monsieur, do you believe that with the wise administration of a far-sighted and cultivated nation the Philippines would be a valuable colony?" "Marvelous, perfectly marvelous! In the Philippines there are untold riches and their situation is perfectly unique. Among other things there are sugar, hemp, rice and an incalculable quantity of precious woods. And to all these must be added coffee, tobacco and the mines. In fact, the subsoil is worth gold, but it has never been exploited."

"Have the natives really suffered much from the Spaniards?" "Oh, yes, very much; that is incontestable. The Spaniards never did anything for them. Just fancy that at Mariveles, at the entrance to the bay, there are still cannibals. Yes, sir, cannibals! Just think of that! They are very gentle and they do not cause much trouble. I will admit, but they have a taste for human flesh all the same, and that propensity has never been checked by the Spaniards. They go to church once in a while, and that is all that is demanded of them."

"How comes it that the Spaniards did nothing? Why did not the governor risk a coup de main to recapture Cavite and the arsenal?"

"With what? They would have been under the fire of the American fleet."

"But they had field pieces and it would not require very heavy projectiles to pierce the American ships?" "Oh, yes, they had field pieces, but they were worthless. In fact, they had nothing to speak of. Disorder was everywhere; the insurgents surrounded the town on all sides and only watched their chance to capture it. The Spaniards found themselves threatened by everybody, both in the town and outside of it. Now that the Spaniards are beaten they are busy with a problem which, with their temperament, it will be difficult for them to solve. They want to find out the cause of their defeat and they seek for it everywhere except in themselves. And yet that is just where it is."

FLEEING FOR THEIR LIVES.

A Mighty Sea of Fire Sweeps Everything Before It.

A dispatch from Idaho Springs, Colorado, says fearful forest fires are raging on the west side of the divide. They are beyond control and the people are fleeing for their lives. How many, if any, have perished cannot be known as there is no way of getting direct information. Light breezes give the mighty sea of fire new impetus and onward it goes, burning everything before it, with no chance for life, stock or property. Cattle are known to be perishing and bears, deer and other wild animals are rushing to the east side of the divide. The damage will be tremendous. The timber losses amount to more than any money consideration. These forests cover the head waters of the mountain streams where the snow remains for many months. From such source streams have been kept carrying volumes of water sufficient to irrigate most of the lands of the State west of the divide. With the disappearance of the timber the flow of the streams will be materially lessened. There seems to be a settled opinion among the ranchmen that these fires are started by the Indians with a malicious intent. They say the forcible ejection of the Indians and their return to the reservation more than a year ago because of their slaughter of game has made them bitter against the whites.

The forest fires which have been burning in various places throughout western Wisconsin for the past few days were fanned into furious storms of flame by winds and did not stop in Chippewa, Dunn, St. Croix and Polk counties. A general destruction of telegraph wires make the reports very incomplete, but it seems that the villages of Clayton, Almazena and Poskin have been wholly or partly destroyed, that Cumberland has suffered heavy losses and that Glenwood, Barron, Prentiss, Phillips and Turtle Lake were saved only by great efforts. Reports of loss of life are coming in, but have not been verified except in one instance. A railroad bridge and trestle over 700 feet long on the Soo Line, west of Barron, was burned last night and trains are running by another route. Fires have been checked in places by rains and the subsidence of the winds.

A rough estimate places the aggregate loss at \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000. The reports from the western portion of Colorado continue to tell of the ravages of the forest fires, which bid fair to devastate the greater part of the forests of the State. A special from Glenwood Springs, the centre of the burning district, says: "The fires in the mountains near here have taken fresh life today owing to high winds. The sun has been nearly obscured, all day the atmosphere was heavy with smoke. The fire east of Glenwood Springs is fortunately in an unsettled part of the country and aside from the immense loss by the burning of timber, no loss has occurred up to the present time. 'The stock on the ranges, as far as heard from, has escaped the fire.'"

A special to the News from Kokomo, Colo., says: "Forest fires are raging on every hand here. Sheep mountain, on the north side of a mesa of fire, the which are within a quarter of a mile of this camp. Great apprehension is felt here for the safety of the town."

RECONCENTRATED ALL DEAD.

So Spoke the Secretary General of Cuba in New York.

Among the passengers who arrived Wednesday at New York on the steamer Washington from Havana was Dr. Jose Congosto Secretary-General of Cuba. Dr. Congosto said the problem of the future of the island is a difficult one and I have studied it without prejudice, and as a result of this study of years I believe that it is a social problem and not a political one. Of course, politics will play a part in the solution, but the question is how to bring the most prosperity and the greatest happiness to the people of Cuba."

Dr. Congosto was asked as to the condition of the reconcentrated.

"There are no reconcentrated now," he answered with a smile.

"What has become of them?" was the question.

"They are gone."

"Where?"

"God knows," was the reply.

"Do you mean to say they are all dead?"

"That explains it better than I can. It is a subject which I prefer not to discuss."

"When asked as to the establishment of a new navy for Spain, Dr. Congosto said: 'Spain is still a great country, and she ought to have a great navy—and probably will.'"

Discussing the fall of Santiago and the surrender of Gen. Toral Dr. Congosto said: "There were brave soldiers at Santiago, and if their leader lacked courage he deserves to be punished. Santiago should not have fallen as it did, and if Toral had never entered into negotiations with the enemy it is likely that the city would have been different story to tell today."

That the Spanish army there lacked supplies and ammunition, for they had plenty of both which they turned over to the Americans. If Toral had pushed forward instead of retreating toward the city, he certainly would have caused a repulse. These are things which he will have to explain."

A Perilous Trip.

The United States transport Massachusetts, Captain Robinson, which sailed from Santiago September 23, arrived at New York Wednesday and proceeded to anchor off Liberty island. While at Santiago the cool in the Massachusetts' bunkers took